

# BACK TO PRABHUPADA

The magazine of the real Hare Krishna movement

Issue 24, Summer 2009

"Defeating tyranny in the realm of thought"

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## Srila Prabhupada: The *parampara's* current link

Also in this issue:

American Encyclopedia  
of Religions

GBC's eightfold acrobatics

Serving Prabhupada in Serbian

The Divinity Delusion  
continued



ISKCON Revival Movement



# Personal criticism or personal qualification?



**BACK TO PRABHUPADA**

Published quarterly

Founded under the inspiration of  
**His Divine Grace A.C.  
Bhaktivedanta Swami  
Prabhupada**, Founder-Acarya,  
International Society for Krishna  
Consciousness (ISKCON)

Editor: Krishnakant

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Welcome to Issue 24 of *Back to Prabhupada* (*BTP*).

The most common criticism levelled against the IRM is that we are being offensive and thereby committing "Vaisnava *aparadha*". This has now become an almost automatic knee-jerk reaction to anything we say, regardless of what we say, even when most of the time we are simply repeating Srila Prabhupada's words verbatim. We are told to stop "fault-finding" and instead just glorify Krishna. Why are we always focusing on the shortcomings of ISKCON gurus? Why is it necessary to only point out what someone has done wrong? (Please see page 15 of this issue). This sounds reasonable enough on first hearing, but when we consider the nature of the beast we are dealing with, as I will now show, it actually becomes an absurd objection.

ISKCON's gurus are claiming to be transparent via media in the *parampara* (disciplic succession of bona fide gurus). They are worshipped as good-as-God. While singing the *mangala-arati* prayers, their disciples are supposed to consider them as assisting the *gopis* (Krishna's confidential associates in the spiritual world). They are supposed to represent Srila Prabhupada's teachings purely without the slightest change. In short, they are supposed to be fulfilling the same function that Srila Prabhupada fulfilled for his disciples. Hence they are claiming via their actions (if not their weasel words – please see *BTP* 19 Editorial, "The Great Guru Hoax, Part 3") that the very basis of their position is their personal qualification to represent the *parampara* as faultless successor *diksa* (initiating) gurus. Consequently, it is absurd to demand that such persons cannot be subject to scrutiny, and further when they

are found to be wanting, frauds and impostors, that this should not be pointed out. Further, in *BTP* we concentrate primarily on demonstrating how what these gurus preach differs from Srila Prabhupada, and hence that they are not representing his teachings. Falldowns and scandals constitute but a minor part of our reporting, since the most dangerous "gurus" are those who appear to be "fixed-up" externally. Even fools can see that fallen gurus should not be followed (we hope!). Even on ISKCON "guru-disciple" courses, prospective disciples are taught that it is their duty to carefully study and examine prospective gurus. This they are told with the confident belief that they will of course have to pick at least one of the GBC's 80 gurus on offer. However, we are not allowed to apply the same scrutiny because when we do, we are able to prove that all of them are found wanting. So for persons whose position depends on their personal qualifications, to examine their words and actions and to see if they measure up to what they are claiming is not only required, but should be the main focus of everyone who is concerned for the welfare of ISKCON – whether prospective disciples, the GBC, life members etc.

Now let us contrast this with the attitude that is taken towards the IRM and myself in particular. In this case, having absolutely no philosophy with which to answer our documented evidence and arguments, personal attacks are again an automatic knee-jerk response (please see page 15 of this issue). Not only is this a logical fallacy known as *argumentum ad hominem* (you cannot disprove a philosophical argument by discrediting the person presenting it), but it is not relevant, since we are neither claiming, nor do we require

to be, spotless transparent via media to the *parampara*. Hence our position does not depend completely on the level of our personal qualification. Indeed, it does not depend on it at all. For the one and only qualification we claim to possess is this: to be able to read. That's right – not associating with the *gopis*, being advanced or any other such thing, but simply being able to read (and to repeat accurately what we read). That is *BTP's* qualification. We can read what Srila Prabhupada said, and we can read what others are saying he said, and see the difference. So to summarise, not for nothing is *Kali-yuga*, this current age of hypocrisy, known as being "topsy-turvy":

**"Therefore, by the influence of the age of Kali, everywhere, politically, socially or religiously, everything is topsy-turvy, and therefore for the sane man it is all regrettable."**

(*Srimad-Bhagavatam*, 1:16:22 purport, emphasis added)

Because in cases where someone's personal qualifications are the very basis of their existence, we are told the one thing we can not do is to examine these qualifications, since this would be fault-finding. However, in the case where one's personal qualification has zero bearing on what is being read and presented, personal attacks are usually the only thing we are offered.

We can only "fault-find" if there is fault to find, and in the case of those claiming to faultlessly represent Srila Prabhupada as the current links of the *parampara*, there should not be any fault at all!

Please feel free to write to me at the following address with any comments whatsoever: [irm@iskconirm.com](mailto:irm@iskconirm.com). Thank you and Hare Krishna. Yours in the service of Srila Prabhupada,

**Krishnakant**





# Letters to the editor

**EDITOR'S NOTE:** Due to a continued overwhelming response, the publication of letters has been running approximately 9 months behind for quite some time now. We tried previously to run an extra page of letters to clear the backlog, but this was to no avail since as the number of our subscribers continues to increase, so do the letters! We humbly beg your patience.

“Please be informed that I have received copies of BTP and found them exceptionally well published. The clarity seems to be getting perfect every time.”

- Kaviraja Das, Atlanta, Georgia, USA  
(passed away June 1st 2009)

“I admire and endorse the IRM.”

- Swami B.S. Radhanti, Porto Alegre, Brazil

“Your publication is illuminating. My deep gratitude for keeping me posted with the developments.”

- Maharaja Pragmulji of Kutch, Kutch, India

“Thank you so much for this. Finally, a group with the courage to step up to ISKCON's false gurus and bring the focus back on where it should be: Prabhupada and Krishna. Hare Krishna!”

- Joshua Geesaman, Elizabethtown, USA

“Although I am no longer an active member of ISKCON, I enjoy reading your magazine, and your main thrust seems entirely justified to me. When I first became involved with the devotees at Bhaktivedanta Manor, at the age of 44, I would go every morning for darshan and class. One morning as I was leaving I was asked to give a young woman devotee a lift to an underground station. As we were driving, the young woman asked me “are you a Prabhupada disciple?” Of course I now understand that because of my age she was enquiring whether Prabhupada was my spiritual master. I at the time however assumed she was asking me if I was a devotee, as to me all devotees were Prabhupada disciples. Because I was new to the movement I therefore replied “I am trying to be”, to which her response was “Ah- all Prabhupada disciples are so humble”. I did not know what she meant and let it pass. It was only some years later after I had been “taught” about the Guru system that I realised her and my mistake.

I do however feel that this innocent exchange shows how a newcomer automatically and naturally feels that we are all followers of Prabhupada, but are then able to be misled because of our ignorance. Thank God for IRM.”

- Bob Collins, London, England

“I am a devotee for 18 years and don't go to ISKCON temples anymore. The spiritual fire has burnt out long ago. I have read a few issues. Please put me on your mailing list and keep exposing bogus rascals, posing as temple presidents and gurus. Hare Krishna.”

- Anusha Mangaru, Durban, South Africa

“I now feel that IRM is doing some excellent work. I have been trying to get feedback from many devotees in ISKCON now; some say that the magazine is explicit in nature and it's a big “Vaishnava offense”. “Gurus” have been targeted and personal remarks have been made on them. On the other hand, there are devotees whose opinions and lives have changed completely just because of this magazine. We now know about the falldown of “gurus” in ISKCON, there are devotees who are cheating everyone and we are now careful of them. BTP has now been an eye-opener and has exposed individuals who are a threat to Srila Prabhupada's ISKCON movement. The information given in this magazine is perfect. Please interact more with the devotees. Bhakti Charu Swami's worshipping Lord Shiva in ISKCON Ujjain and Jayapataka Swami's inability to chant 16 rounds everyday are not only shocking but also remind us that ISKCON has degraded like never before.”

- Pranjal Joshi, Jaipur, India

“Thank you for saving Srila Prabhupada's Movement. Your Back To Prabhupada mags and articles are sastric, logical, scientific,

and carry Srila Prabhupada's mood and message. You can't believe a word guru hoaxers say. The present so-called ISKCON infrastructure is so corrupted that it can never be changed. The real ISKCON, according to Srila Prabhupada WILL rise from the ashes...thanks in a GREAT PART to you and BTP. Thank you, Krishnakant Prabhu for forcing out the truth. Your fighting spirit is inspiring me.”

- Ramai Devi Dasi, West Virginia, USA

“It's such a wonderful job to put our Srila Prabhupada at the top of the mountain. He is our real saviour. All of us have to show the whole world how big is Srila Prabhupada, he has to be the real example to follow for the next 5000 years or more, thank you Prabhu Krishnakant. Please accept my obeisances at your feet, Srila Prabhupada Bhaktivedanta Swami ki jaya!”

- Yambavan Das, Estado de Morelos, Mexico

“I very much want to read this famous magazine!”

Ripon Dutta, Chittagong, Bangladesh

“Dear Krishnakant, thank you for your information, it is very valuable for me. Accept my humble obeisances.”

- Carlos Arturo Jaramillo Rodriguez, Medellin, Colombia

“When Prabhupada came one thing he did was expose the sham of false gurus. But now, what are we seeing in the society he founded? How are these gurus any different?”

- Emmanuel Arroyo, Iloilo City, Philippines

“Where would ISKCON be without your service to Srila Prabhupada??? Because of Srila Prabhupada's blessings on IRM and BTP there is genuine hope for us all. Your fallen servant,”

- Bhuvana Pavani Devi Dasi, Nebraska, USA

“Hare Krishna, good work, keep

it up. Thanks to IRM, today I am knowing the reality and hope that IRM will continue to be as a torchlight to all beings. I received the magazines. “No one can resist the power of truth!” By the grace of Radha-Krishna, I am extremely happy to receive them. I hope that everyone seizes this opportunity and becomes Krishna Conscious. Without Krishna human life is meaningless. Thanks IRM, Hare Krishna.”

- Madhumaie Devi Dasi, Port Louis, Mauritius

“I found the material very inspiring. I have been a converted ritvik follower for two months and I feel by accepting Srila Prabhupada as the sole Guru and the only pure devotee has been a life-changing experience, and my spiritual life got a very nice boost in that way. Thank you very much for your wonderful service. Hare Krsna!”

- Nishant Thakar, Illinois, USA

“Just to say that I have received the latest issue of Back To Prabhupada, very interesting and empowering once again. I am still reading The Final Order, there's a lot of information in there to process, hopefully I will get the chance to speak to you about it at some point. Wishing you much success on your mission of truth.”

- Ed James, Poole, England

“I was so glad to find this site. I am very interested in Krishna Consciousness, and am studying the books of Swami Prabhupada. I have been doing much research, and realize that there are many changes in ISKCON since its founding. I am glad to see there are people trying to restore its dream. Thank you for this site, and may the blessings of Krishna be with all of you!!”

- Glenn Muthersbaugh, Verona, USA

“Very interesting reading. Keep the good work. Jai Prabhupada. Hare Krishna.”

- Mrs Ranjana Brijmohan, Canberra, Australia

“IRM gives us the inside details

# Letters to the editor *(continued from page 3)*

of the movement. It is one of the world's best movements. It should run as per the guidelines of Srila Prabhupada. Your efforts are laudable."

- Vishwanatha Kedia, Mumbai, India

"Thanks a lot for sending me the latest volume of BTP and keeping me updated on all the latest topics related to the guru issue. Wishing you loads of success in all your present and future endeavors. An insignificant aspiring disciple of Prabhupada,"

- Madhan Kumar K., Bangalore, India

"Thank you so much for your wonderful service to Srila Prabhupada. Your mission to re-establish the Sankirtan Movement on Earth is the most important business in the entire universe. All glories and success to you."

- Karl Bertenshaw, Dorset, England

"Continue the good work."

- Ashwin V. Haldipur, Bangalore, India

"I am pleased that I am now aware of these things that were previously unknown to me, and I hope that the disciples of His Divine Grace A.C. Bhaktivedanta Swami Prabhupada carry out everything as he would have wanted to have seen it done. Jai, Hare Krishna Hare Rama."

- Wladimiro Negri, Milan, Italy

"Back To Prabhupada is an excellent contribution to the Hare Krishna movement and an eye-opener to the devotees about the true preachings of Srila Prabhupada."

- P.V.S.N Raju, Andhra Pradesh, India

"I thank you for all of your time, effort and energy in getting this to me. I really appreciate the information contained within it. Again, thank you. Hare Krishna."

- Audra Brown, Pennsylvania, USA

"Truth should be revealed. Extend your journal to a wider group."

- R. Rajasingam, Penang, Malaysia

"Thanks for sending BTP, great work done, please keep guiding the world. Good luck."

- LT COL MS Kanwar, SM, Bangalore, India

"I wish you a lot of success and endurance in putting Srila Prabhupada's system back in place."

- Zoltan Bitto, Northampton, England (translated from Hungarian)

"AGTSP! May God bless you all, you are doing 'real Guru seva'. God bless you all, the real 'Guru sevakas'. Hare Krishna! Sadguru Srila Prabhupada ki jaya! 'Become a ritvik...spread my message.' HDG Srila Prabhupada (100%)."

- Giridhar Ghodkar, Secunderabad, India

"Hare Krishna! Thanks for sending me the latest BTP magazine. It is great that for once and for all the truth is coming out. Can you please send me a copy of The Final Order? I am very eager to read it."

- Matthew Devine, Northumberland, England

"I appreciate the info alot. Thanks again, all glories to Srila Prabhupada and your service!! Namaste."

- Nayika Devi Dasi, Haiku, Hawaii

"Finally, I got what I wanted."

- Prabhua Parana Devi Dasi, Chandigarh, India

"Wonderful magazine by wonderful people!"

- Sunil Patel, Ontario, Canada

"Thank you for BTP. I am most grateful to have received a copy. All glories to Sri Krishna!!!"

- Alex O'Gorman, Co. Wicklow, Ireland

"These magazines have changed my life forever."

- Pankaj Thareja, Sembawang, Singapore

"Wonderful magazine...I love reading it."

- Nelson Jose, São Bernardo do Campo, Brazil

"A very amazing work you are doing."

- Ganesh Narasimhan, Chennai, India

"Wonderful work IRM is doing everywhere in the world."

- Tejasimha Kapoor, Burnham, England

"Thanks for the service."

- Bhaktin Anne, Shanghai, China

"I want to thank you very much Krishnakant for your wonderful work. You may be interested to

know that via this latest BTP, I have only just realized that Jayapataka Swami lied to Sridhara Swami about Srila Prabhupada's letter. This means that he was a major player in the whole big lie. As stupid as I am prabhu, I never knew this, and I believe that many devotees worldwide wouldn't realise this either. Thank you once again prabhu."

- Kurma Das, Melbourne, Australia

"Thank you for this valuable service. Hare Krishna."

- Janardan Sevak Das, Arizona, USA

"I didn't know that such a movement like the IRM existed until I read it from the internet. I am glad that such a movement was established in order to restore the original ISKCON movement. I hope and pray that you will succeed in your mission. I know Krishna will be pleased with you and bless you. Hare Krishna!"

- Anthony J. Mayang, Bacolod City, Philippines

"I always look forward to the next issue."

- Janice Lee, Ukiah, USA

"In the garden it is sometimes necessary to chop down the weeds."

- M. Jackson Priso, Flers, France (translated from French)

"BTP issue 19, Spring 08, Outside Back Cover: Srila Prabhupada's book distribution: never heard of Sivarama Swami being president of Chicago; NOR EVER distributing his books at O'Hare from 6am-8pm. I have never heard of this, any of it. Krishnakant Prabhu and Great Souls, you are doing wonderful service for Srila Prabhupada. Pour it on. Even the local GBC reads BTP. Everyone here in New Vrindavana reads BTP. Please keep sending!"

- J. Das, New Vrindavana, West Virginia, USA

"Thank you very much, congratulations for the magazine. We need to print more books about it. Like to work with you more."

- Ramanya Das, Puerto Rico, USA

"I am a servant of Srila Prabhupada. I would like to serve him better and authentically. Therefore it is important for me to go through all these confusions and facts. Hare Krishna."

- Kulbushan, Chandigarh, India

"These people are in my eyes very arrogant and without any trace of humility."

- Reimund Kirschbaum, Spalt, Germany

"Yes friends. Receive I did, and am happy, and how!"

- V. Velde, Riga, Latvia

"Thank you very much for doing such valuable work which saves many from falling into a great trap. I wish all the best. Give me any opportunity to do any service if required. Hare Krishna!"

- V. Ramaraj, Bangalore, India

"I want to know more about Prabhupada. I take him to be an innovation of Prabhu Nityananda's Grace. He must be put in the right place."

- Sri Shaunak Goswami, Burdwan, India

"HDG Srila Prabhupada is the only Guru who has the power to lead the whole of humanity to Krishna Consciousness. He has (by his words, books, tapes) made a sinful soul like me to move towards Krishna Consciousness."

- Hitesh Gurusani, Dehradun, India

"ISKCON is Srila Prabhupada and we need to get it back to Srila Prabhupada's standard!"

- Sritama Sherreitt, Hawaii, USA

"It is sad to read how Srila Prabhupada was betrayed."

- Pandit Pravinji, California, USA

"Keep up the great work! Thank you."

- Larry Freeman, Los Angeles, USA

"Thank you very much and hope to visit you someday. 'Viva la Revolucion!'"

- Sambhu Das, Emmaboda, Sweden

"Thank you for all your help. Hare Krishna!"

- Stephen Harmsworth, London, England

"Very pleased to learn about the IRM! Namaste."

- Napoleon Zivkovic, Paterson, USA



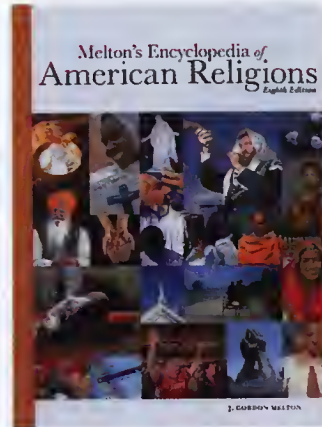
# Quotes, Notes and News (QNN)

## IRM profiled in *Encyclopedia of American Religions*

This year marks the 30th anniversary of the pre-eminent research tool in the field of American religious organizations and spiritual movements - *Melton's Encyclopedia of American Religions*. Considered the standard reference tool since its inception, the Encyclopedia is published by Gale, Cengage Learning, a world leader in e-research and educational publishing for libraries, schools and businesses. The current 8th edition expands on previous editions in providing comprehensive and compelling coverage of the American religious landscape for students, scholars and general researchers. The Encyclopedia is edited by J. Gordon Melton, a nationally recognized leading authority on religion who is the founding director of the Institute for the Study of American Religion and a research specialist with the Department of Religious Studies at the University of California, Santa Barbara.

Since the Encyclopedia is the standard reference text for anyone seeking comprehensive information on religious organizations in North America, the inclusion of the ISKCON Revival Movement (IRM) is therefore indeed a very prestigious sign of recognition for the IRM's role as the sole international organization battling to reinstitute Srila Prabhupada's actual teachings.

The Encyclopedia marks the latest landmark in a growing list of world scholarly interest in the IRM which to date has included: the International Cultic Studies Association (2003); Center for Studies on New Religions [CESNUR] (2004); American Academy of Religion (2004); Columbia University Press (2004); Martin-Luther University, Halle-Wittenberg (2006); Continuum International Publishing (2006);



Carl University, Prague (2006); Facts on File's Encyclopedia of Hinduism / World Religions (2007); and New York University Press (2007).

The IRM, *Back to Prabhupada* and *BTP* editor Krishnakant are all listed in the Encyclopedia's index. Below are extracts from the Encyclopedia's profile of the IRM:

"The ISKCON Revival Movement (IRM) is a movement working for the revival and reordering of the larger International Society for Krishna Consciousness (ISKCON) [...] a vehicle for ISKCON members who believe that the ISKCON movement has erred in the guru structure it adopted after the death of Prabhupada and thus needs to be exposed and reformed. The ISKCON Revival Movement believes that ISKCON disobeyed the will and wishes of Prabhupada in adopting a zonal guru leadership after his death. The IRM has offered signed documents and papers arguing that the leadership in the movement was assigned to 11 gurus — Harikesa Swami, Jayatirtha dasa Adhikari, Hamsaduta Swami, Hridayananda Gosvami, Ramesvara Swami, Bhagavan dasa Adhikari, Kirtanananda Swami, Tamala Krsna Gosvami, Satsvarupa dasa Gosvami, Bhavananda Gosvami, and Jayapataka Swami — instead of keeping Prabhupada as sole guru. [...] The IRM was formed

through the efforts of longtime ISKCON devotee Krishnakant [...] Krishnakant began researching the issue of guru succession in the late 1980s; his work resulted in initial publication of the *Back to Prabhupada* magazine in 1995. The book *The Final Order* was released the next year. [...] The group's Web site contains extensive material on the issues related to guru succession. [...] The IRM is present in the United States, Canada, and 13 other countries.

Periodicals: *Back to Prabhupada*.

Sources: ISKCON Revival Movement. [www.iskconirm.com](http://www.iskconirm.com)

Krishnakant. *The Final Order*. 1996." From *Melton's Encyclopedia of American Religions*, 8E. © 2009 Gale, a part of Cengage Learning, Inc. Reproduced by permission. [www.cengage.com/permissions](http://www.cengage.com/permissions)

## GBC's "no position" not Srila Prabhupada's position

Vyenkata Bhatta Das (Vineet Chander), ISKCON Director of Communications for North America, recently issued the following statement which appeared as part of an article on the website of ISKCON's official News Agency:

**"Like many religious organizations, ISKCON does not hold an official position on the recognition of same-sex marriage, with members (and leaders) holding a range of views on the topic."**

(ISKCON News Weekly, April 18th, 2009)

The statement was published in reference to the recent "blessing" conferred upon the "marriage" of a homosexual couple by ISKCON guru HH Hridayananda Das Gowsami (see also QNN 23). However, ISKCON's sole spiritual authority - His Divine Grace A.C. Bhaktivedanta Swami Prabhupada, clearly does hold a "position" on same-sex marriage, stating that it is to be condemned:

**"They are going to pass res-**

**olution for getting married between man to man. The human society has come down to such a degraded position. [...] They're getting married man to man. Most degraded."**

(Srila Prabhupada Conversation with the GBC, May 25th, 1972 and February 16th, 1977)

ISKCON is therefore once again openly admitting that it is not representing Srila Prabhupada's teachings, admitting that instead its leaders are "holding a range of views on the topic." Which, of course, just goes to prove once again, via the GBC's own admission, how useless and deviant the GBC has become, as Srila Prabhupada himself states:

**"When disciples do not stick to the principle of accepting the order of their spiritual master, immediately there are two opinions. Any opinion different from the opinion of the spiritual master is useless. One cannot infiltrate materially concocted ideas into spiritual advancement. That is deviation. There is no scope for adjusting spiritual advancement to material ideas."** (Sri Caitanya-caritamṛta, *Adi-lila* 12.9, purport, emphasis added)

## Classic quotes

"the 'Back to Prabhupada' people [...] introduce vaguely impersonalist elements into Vaishnava theology [...] when we stress vani over vapu to the point where we deligitimize vapu almost entirely".

(HG Kripamoya Das, ISKCON European Council Chairman, *The Vaishnava Voice*, June 30th, 2009)

Yet Kripamoya himself had entirely no vapu (physical association) and hence is living proof of the *BTP* position he attacks:

"you (Srila Prabhupada) replied 'Jaya' [...] That was the only word you said to me directly [...] One word spoken thirty years previously".

(HG Kripamoya Das, *Vyasa-Puja* offering to Srila Prabhupada, 2007)



# GBC admits continual deviation since 1977

The IRM's position is very clear: that following Srila Prabhupada's disappearance in 1977, the movement deviated wholesale by introducing a false successor guru system and this deviation continues today. Hence there has effectively been no real ISKCON since 1977, since by definition ISKCON is the society founded by Srila Prabhupada which accepts him as its *Acharya* (Guru) and follows all his directives.

We have been documenting that, following the IRM's vigorous preaching, more and more of the very persons who are responsible for these deviations, ISKCON's current leaders in the shape of its gurus, Governing Body Commissioners (GBCs) and managers, have been forced to admit that our position is correct (please see *BTP* Special Issue 2, and the "GBC climbdown" series in recent *BTP* issues).

Recently, another leading ISKCON guru and GBC, **HH Bhakti Charu Swami** ("BCS"), admitted that ISKCON has been continuously deviating since 1977, and that this deviation continues today. All quotes in the panels below are from an article written by BCS, published on July 12th, 2009 on the GBC-funded website, *Dandavats.com*.

## ISKCON deviating since 1977

**"Nevertheless, after Srila Prabhupada's disappearance, we in ISKCON also made a similar mistake. Thinking that Srila Prabhupada had appointed 11 successors we also plunged in to the same syndrome of appointing spiritual heads of the institution presuming that after Srila Prabhupada's disappearance they inherited ISKCON."**

It is admitted that ISKCON has been based on a mass deviation

since 1978, consisting of replacing Srila Prabhupada with unauthorized guru successors.

## ISKCON continues deviating until current day

**"In 1987, about 10 years after Srila Prabhupada's disappearance, this mistake was addressed by concerned leading devotees of ISKCON, but was not fully corrected. Just by adding more gurus and allowing them to initiate wherever they could attract disciples, that mistake was only diluted to some extent but was not really corrected. Recently, the GBC body became painfully aware that through that mistake a parallel line of authority has been created in ISKCON which is causing a considerable amount of damage to the institution and is stifling the growth of the movement. It is very laudable of the GBC body that they have taken this issue very seriously and are working hard to rectify it."**

It is admitted that this mass deviation, which has been ISKCON's foundation since 1978, is continuing today, albeit in a diluted form. Indeed, so widespread has this deviation been that the GBC only became aware of it recently, but they hope to rectify it in the future! One of the first gurus who was added and "allowed to initiate wherever they could attract disciples", was of course BCS himself, and he has been one of the most prolific in doing this!

## ISKCON currently not growing since it is deviant

**"In ISKCON, it is important that we clearly recognize the fact that everything in ISKCON, including even all the devotees, belongs to Srila Prabhupada, then only this mistake that is sti-**

**fling the growth of our institution will be rectified and Krsna Consciousness movement will start to spread once again, all over the world, in leaps and bounds."**

It is admitted that since this deviation is presently continuing in ISKCON the movement is not growing, and the solution involves recognizing that "everything in ISKCON, even all the devotees, belongs to Srila Prabhupada". This, of course, would entail BCS and everyone else recognizing that all ISKCON devotees are disciples of Srila Prabhupada and not their disciples, just as the IRM has advocated all along.

## Intelligence is lost

BCS himself had earlier said in a similar vein:

**"After Harikesa fell down in 1998, in 1999 I proposed that it's obvious that we are going in the wrong direction. Now, when you go wrong, when you know you're going in the wrong direction, what do you do? You stop to find the right way. So for the time-being, let's stop giving initiation and find out what is actually the problem and what is the solution to this problem, whether we can find a solution and until then, let us stop."**

(BCS, Toronto Meeting, July 20th, 2003)

Yet of course BCS never stopped, but carried on initiating vigorously, and is doing so today, even though he admits he is deviating and following an incorrect guru system not authorized by Srila Prabhupada. In the *Bhagavad-gita* it is stated:

**"While contemplating the objects of the senses, a person develops attachment for them, and from such attachment lust develops, and from lust anger arises. From anger, delusion arises, and from delusion be-**

**wilderment of memory. When memory is bewildered, intelligence is lost, and when intelligence is lost, one falls down again into the material pool."**

(*Bhagavad-gita As It Is*, 2:62-63)

So due to trying to satisfy one's senses via disciples and the attendant profit, adoration and distinction, BCS has lost his intelligence. How else to explain someone admitting he is doing the wrong thing, but still madly continuing to do it?

## Example of loss of intelligence

**"Srila Prabhupada identified himself as a mere member of the Governing body of ISKCON."**

A perfect example of his intelligence being lost is the above nonsensical statement from BCS. Srila Prabhupada never identified himself as a "mere member" of the GBC. Rather he stated that the whole GBC body worked under him:

**"I want that the GBC should relieve me of this management burden and in the future, all such questions should be taken up with the local GBC member. If no satisfactory solution can be reached, then other GBC members may be consulted. The GBC can formulate proposals and submit them to me for approval."**

(Srila Prabhupada Letter, 2/2/1975)

## Conclusion

It is admitted that ISKCON's current guru system is a mass deviation. This admission comes from none other than a person who is perpetrating this deviation. However, he still continues to perpetrate this deviation, unable to follow his own advice to stop perpetrating this deviation, due to loss of intelligence from excessive attachment for disciples, profit, adoration and distinction.





# How is the *diksa* guru authorised?

**T**he IRM has successfully proven that the requirement for being a *diksa*, or initiating, guru in ISKCON is not simply that one thinks they have acquired the requisite qualifications to act as guru, but that in addition Srila Prabhupada must also authorize such persons to specifically act in that capacity:

**"One should take initiation from a bona fide spiritual master coming in the disciplic succession, who is authorised by his predecessor spiritual master. This is called *diksa vidhana*."**

(*Srimad-Bhagavatam* 4.8.54, purport)

This has put the GBC on the back foot, realizing that it's not enough just to "assume" they were supposed to become gurus to "continue the *parampara*", but that they also need to demonstrate authorization for the same. We here will review the shifting and contradictory attempts made by the GBC over the years to demonstrate that Srila Prabhupada authorized gurus, illustrated using a recent discussion on the subject between two ISKCON guru hoaxers, **HH Jayadvaita Swami** and **HH Trivikrama Swami**, archived on April 5th, 2009, excerpts from which will be in the tinted panels below.

## 1978 – Direct order

Following the disappearance of Srila Prabhupada, there was never any doubt in anyone's mind that authorization meant receiving a direct order from Srila Prabhupada for the same, and indeed this was the basis of ISKCON's guru system with the first Great Guru Hoax:

**"The argument that after the departure of the spiritual master any one of his disciples can give initiation, cannot be applied in the case of Srila Prabhupada who specifically**

**named 11 persons only at first to fulfill this function."**

(Tamala Krishna Letter to Upananda, December 13th, 1978)

## 1987 – No authorization - It's automatic

Following The Great Guru Hoax, Part 1, to satisfy the clamour from many other ambitious persons also wishing to be guru, the requirement that Srila Prabhupada needs to authorize gurus had to be ditched, since at best he had only named 11 persons (as *ritviks* in reality, but the GBC still accepted they were named as gurus). Therefore, a 180-degree flip-flop was done whereby it was accepted that no authorization is needed since by the "law of disciplic succession" everyone is automatically authorized ("The Great Guru Hoax, Part 2"):

**Trivikrama:** "Then again, Prabhupada says in a letter to Tusta Krishna about it is the law of disciplic succession, when your spiritual master is present the etiquette is you should bring aspiring disciples to him. But when he's no longer present then he can accept disciples."

**Jayadvaita:** "Unlimitedly. So it's a point of etiquette. Otherwise everyone's authorized, but even the authorized person waits, following the etiquette."

## 1987 – But GBC authorization required!

However, having got around the inconvenient point that Srila Prabhupada's authorization was required to become guru by dispensing with the need for authorization at all, the GBC contradictorily claimed that though no authorization is needed from Srila Prabhupada himself to become guru, it is nonetheless needed from them:

**Jayadvaita:** "Well, what you're saying is that it's not irrelevant that they are approved, or not objected to, or whatever, and that's accepted on the grounds that the GBC has been appointed by Prabhupada as the ultimate managing authority. So in terms of the management for the society, it's relevant. If you want to abide by the managerial set-up of the society then their stamp of whatever is relevant."

## Everyone authorized – Just by following

**Trivikrama:** "Sometimes they say 'Well, Lord Chaitanya told everyone to be a spiritual master.'"

**Jayadvaita:** "He did."

**Trivikrama:** "So then everyone is authorized."

**Jayadvaita:** "True. Except one just has to follow and then he's authorized."

In addition, the argument is also used that Lord Chaitanya's order for everyone to "become guru" (*Sri Caitanya-caritamrta, Madhyalila* 7:128) means again that everyone is automatically authorized by dint of this order. However, Srila Prabhupada makes clear in the purports to this verse that this order only refers to becoming *siksa* (instructing), not *diksa* (initiating) guru: **"It is best not to accept any disciples"** (Cc, *Madhyalila* 7:130). In addition, we have already noted that this argument is defeated by the GBC's requirement that one still needs to be authorized by *them* first.

## Actual situation – Direct order

Though in 1978 Srila Prabhupada's direct order for *ritviks* (officiating priests) was misinterpreted as being an order for *diksa* gurus, one cannot dispense with the need for an order itself:

**"A Guru can be Guru when he is ordered by his Guru. That's all. Otherwise nobody can become Guru."**

(Srila Prabhupada Lecture, October 28th, 1975)

Indeed, even the guru hoaxers refer to this obvious point:

**Jayadvaita:** "Although it's supposed to be that if one is authorized by the spiritual master, there must be a letter or it must be on file in the Vedabase."

Srila Prabhupada clearly stated in his final days 3 times that "everything" which was needed for running ISKCON, he gave in writing:

**"I have given in writing everything, whatever you wanted—my will, my executive (?) power, everything. Disaster will happen if you cannot manage it. [...] I have already given everything in writing."**

(Srila Prabhupada Room Conversation, October 2nd and 3rd, 1977)

In Srila Prabhupada's Last Will and the July 9th, 1977 directive, it is established that for ISKCON Srila Prabhupada is its initiating Guru. And hence if Srila Prabhupada had wanted to authorize any successor gurus or a system by which successor gurus could emerge in the future, he would also have given this in writing.

In ISKCON, every single activity, no matter how minor, is considered authorized only because we can support it with a direct recorded instruction to that effect from Srila Prabhupada. Yet for the most momentous and significant order, that of how the *parampara* should continue for the next 10,000 years, we are to believe that this one most important activity does not require any direct order from Srila Prabhupada. The GBC have to say this since Srila Prabhupada did not authorise any successor *diksa* gurus.



# Serving Srila Prabhupada in Serbian



COMING TO  
PRABHUPADA

By  
**Bhakta Zoki**  
Belgrade,  
Serbia;  
and  
China

I was born just over 30 years ago in one of the ex-republics of the former Yugoslavia (now called Serbia), whilst it was still affiliated with the Soviet empire, and hence under the influence of communism, socialism and other "isms". Serbia was therefore basically pervaded with godlessness, and atheism was strongly propagated by the state. Whilst still a very young child, at the beginning of the 1980s, by the grace of His Divine Grace Srila Prabhupada, his books appeared in our country for the first time. My father, unlike many at that time, was very godly and always very fond of reading books, from science fiction to philosophy, so he often took me to the Christian Church, especially when there was some Pravoslavian festival. By the middle of the '80s, my father, during one of his frequent visits to the library, came across the book called *Bhagavad-gita As It Is*, by the author A.C. Bhaktivedanta Swami Prabhupada. I remember later on how he used to say that after reading the *Bhagavad-gita* in one go he said to the librarian that after such a long time researching he had finally found what he had been searching for. Subsequently, Srila Prabhupada's books secretly started coming to our home. The resistance of the family towards my father's new choice of life philosophy was very strong, so I remember how he used to hide in the toilet just so he could read in peace!

In the years to come, ISKCON in Serbia would get stronger and the number of members was

also increasing more and more. During this time the civil wars between Serbia and, first, Slovenia and then Croatia and Bosnia also started, and the former Yugoslavia started to become carved up into the present countries we have now. Hence the people became more frustrated than ever, and all the values which were glorified under the shelter of various "isms" vanished. During this period my father took me for the very first time, in spite of my mother's reluctance, to the Hare Krishna Temple in Belgrade, when I was maybe only 11 or 12 years old. After that, in the face of regular objections from the family, we started to regularly visit the Temple which, meanwhile, had moved to another location. We also attended concerts by a well known Vaishnava music group called "Nityananda", and I started to chant a little bit and read Srila Prabhupada's books. I was attracted to *prasadam* (sanctified vegetarian food), good music, and pictures from the *sastras* (scriptures) that for us depicted totally strange events. It was a nice environment and the people and everything else related to it were completely different from our usual daily life. I found the concerts of the group very ecstatic, and they were attended by many guests and well-wishers who later on would join ISKCON.

I remember at the concerts meeting ISKCON gurus Harikesa Swami (now fallen), Rohini Suta (also fallen), Sacinandana Swami and others. Harikesa I remember at the time was glorified as one of the best ISKCON gurus and many devotees were initiated by him, and due to the way he was promoted I was led to believe that he was on an equal level to Srila Prabhupada. The daily news which was emanating from the battlefield as well as all the political upheavals in the country did

not seem to affect the enthusiasm of the devotees who continued preaching and distributing Srila Prabhupada's books to more and more people. They were even attacked during *kirtan* (chanting) in Belgrade. So my eternal gratitude for getting a chance to know Krishna's pure devotee, His Divine Grace A.C. Bhaktivedanta Swami Srila Prabhupada, goes to my dear father, who taught me Vaishnava philosophy right from my childhood.

When I entered senior school I slowly stopped going to the Temple, and my interest in Krishna Consciousness began to wane, but I still continued to eat *prasadam* whenever my father would bring it home and listened to him while he was reading the *sastras* (scriptures). After I finished school, I had to do one year's compulsory service in the army due to the ongoing war, and managed to get caught up in the NATO bombing in 1999! After my return from the army I found out about the fall down of Harikesa Swami, though my father hesitated to speak about it. However, despite this I still had faith in the ISKCON gurus, and I continued to attend the popular Hare Krishna summer camps which were held throughout the former Yugoslavia, and also visited a new temple which had opened in Belgrade, and thus I continued my association with ISKCON.

It was at one of these ISKCON summer camps that in 2006 I met my present wife who was a devotee visiting from China. She quietly pointed out to me what was actually going on in ISKCON by showing me *Back To Prabhupada* magazines, and what she told me was completely unknown to me! She tried to keep explaining the contents of the magazine to me, but I simply did not want to believe it! Even though I didn't be-

lieve her, I also didn't want to get in any arguments with her since I was thinking that if someone follows Srila Prabhupada then they cannot be in any way a bad person. Nevertheless, I was still supporting the side of the ISKCON gurus. It lasted like this for maybe more than one year during which time I simply didn't dare to tell any of our devotees in Serbia about this controversy in ISKCON, which I was sure none of them had heard about.

Then my wife and I traveled to India which was my first visit there, and so I hoped that while there I could improve my *sadhana* (spiritual practices) a little bit without the need to think of any of the disagreements in ISKCON. However, it was whilst in India that I came across Srila Prabhupada's directive of July 9th 1977, and I later got a copy of *The Final Order* by Krishnakant, and after reading this I slowly started to believe that Srila Prabhupada is the sole Guru for ISKCON. However, I was still under the impression that some of the ISKCON gurus were actually pure, like for example Tamala Krishna Goswami, since they had not visibly fallen down, like Harikesa Swami. I started reading *BTP* magazines, though at the time I only had a few issues, as well as researching on the internet about all the controversy in ISKCON, including the theory that Srila Prabhupada was poisoned and so many other things. The internet was full of so many different opinions and after a while it became bewildering, since I did not know who or what to believe. It was clear something was happening, but I still did not have the exact answers.

Then I started visiting the official IRM website and writing to Krishnakant Prabhu without expecting any encouraging answer, since I was thinking that every-



body was busy with their own projects and that no one had the time to explain to the rest of us who were not acquainted with the issues what was going on. To my great joy, detailed convincing answers started coming for anything and everything I asked. In the beginning, I was not feeling comfortable to ask about everything I wanted to know, but Krishnakant was very enthusiastic to give an answer to all of my questions. I was also hiding my identity, but that didn't stop him answering, so after some time I revealed my true identity. Now I was fully convinced and no longer held any sentiment for any of the ISKCON gurus and realized that Srila Prabhupada alone was the way.

Having become convinced about the truth of Srila Prabhupada's position, I realized that it was meaningless unless I acted on it. I saw that the IRM were the only ones actively doing this and therefore decided to offer myself to be at the IRM's disposal.

It immediately became clear to me that the best way I could serve was by translating the famous book *The Final Order* ("TFO") as well as the *BTP Special Issue* into Serbian, so that all the devotees of the former Yugoslavia could now find out the truth in their own tongue. This was important, since like so many countries in this part of the world, many devotees do not know



**Bhakta Zoki and Krishna festival bus**

English.

Diligent translation work began and after more than one year I managed to translate *TFO* into Serbian called *Konačna Naredba*, three issues of *BTP*, three IRM position papers and one article. Krishnakant was with me all the way by giving me necessary explanations regarding the GBC's heavily tousled arguments which were presented to mislead the devotees and drag them from the correct path. In addition, I raised the funds to print the *BTP Special Issue* in Serbian. This was done in preparation for distribution at an upcoming Hare Krishna summer camp in Croatia. At the camp, IRM devotees, despite threats of dire violence, managed to distribute 50 copies of the Serbian *BTP Special Issue* and I was personally very happy. I was happy that my countrymen were finally getting a chance to become

acquainted with the truth. I was very inspired by getting an opportunity to do some service to Srila Prabhupada and help the IRM in the battle of returning ISKCON to Srila Prabhupada.

The battle is continuing on another front in that we are now setting up a Serbian IRM website to join all the other IRM websites in different languages. On our site we will present all the material translated so far, and I am continually translating, so that all the IRM papers will eventually be on this website. So armed with these position papers, articles, statements, as well as the replies to false arguments and other attacks on the IRM, we have started a campaign to reach out to all the devotees from the former Yugoslavia.

I have also started a Serbian IRM group on the Facebook social networking site. On Facebook my first goal was to find devotees from all the republics of the former Yugoslavia, and invite them to join the IRM Facebook group by sending friendship requests. Meanwhile my father, as well as a few of our close friends, found out about all this and they were simply shocked for many months! Thankfully some of those who are close to me have accepted the conclusion of *The Final Order*. The fact that Srila Prabhupada is the sole *diksa* Guru for ISKCON is way too

**"At the summer camp in Croatia, IRM devotees managed to distribute the Serbian *BTP Special Issue* [...] I invite all the devotees from the former Yugoslavia to give their help in disseminating the truth".**

important to be kept hidden under the carpet, so that increased my enthusiasm even more and I kept sending friendship invitations to our devotees in Serbia. Of course, a number of persons have responded with the usual threats and attacks, even though they had no idea about the facts. After I presented the evidence to them, they had no answer, and just went away burying their head in the sand! But I am undeterred, and am determined to let all the devotees know the truth.

I also want to use this opportunity to invite all the devotees from the former Yugoslavia to give their help in disseminating the truth, never mind if someone wants to join officially or wants to stay undercover, the smallest help is welcomed. If during our preaching some of our devotees feel insulted I humbly beg for forgiveness, since we are not interested in insulting anyone, but to preach the truth about Srila Prabhupada, albeit in an unpromising fashion. My gratitude goes to the whole IRM movement and all of its members, supporters, well-wishers and all other sincere people who want to follow only Srila Prabhupada. And, of course, to my father and wife who made all this possible!

All Glories to *Jagad-Guru* Srila Prabhupada and all of his true disciples!

**Readers are cordially invited to follow Bhakta Zoki's example by sending us your story of just how you came 'Back to Prabhupada'.**



**Bhakta Zoki in India**



# Srila Prabhupada: The current link of the parampara (disciplic succession)

It is automatically assumed that the current representative of the *parampara* must be "physically present"; otherwise he ceases to be the current "link" of the *parampara* through whom we can connect to Krishna. And therefore, it is argued, we must accept a "living guru" in order to connect to the *parampara*. However, as we see from Srila Prabhupada's own statements below, this argument is fatally flawed because:

- 1) Srila Prabhupada never stated that the *parampara* is defined by the presence of physical bodies, but rather defined it as the continuation of transcendental knowledge.
- 2) Srila Prabhupada never stated that he would cease to act as ISKCON's current link *diksa* (initiating) Guru in the *parampara*.
- 3) Srila Prabhupada, on the contrary, explained that the *parampara* would continue through him via his teachings, thus keeping him as the *diksa* Guru.

## Parampara defined as knowledge transmission, not physical body succession

"Parampara means to hear the truth from the spiritual master."

(Srila Prabhupada Room Conversation, December 20th, 1976)

"Parampara means they do not change the word of Krishna. That is parampara."

(Srila Prabhupada Lecture, 11/8/1974)

"So although a physical body is not present, the vibration should be accepted as the presence of the Spiritual Master, vibration. What we have heard from the Spiritual Master, that is living." (Srila Prabhupada Lecture, January 13th, 1969)

"Reception of spiritual knowledge is never checked by any material condition."

(Srimad-Bhagavatam 7.7.1., purport)

"The potency of transcendental sound is never minimised because the vibrator is apparently absent."

(Srimad-Bhagavatam 2.9.8, purport)

"[...] Similarly, the spiritual master can be present wherever the disciple wants. A spiritual master is the principle, not the body."

(Srila Prabhupada Letter, May 28th, 1968)

## Parampara will continue with Srila Prabhupada if "no change" to how ISKCON set up

**Ganesa:** "Srila Prabhupada, if the knowledge was handed down by the saintly kings, evam parampara-praptam, how is it that the knowledge was lost?"

**Srila Prabhupada:** "When it was not handed down. Simply understood by speculation. Or if it is not handed down as it is. They might have made some changes. Or they did not hand it down. Suppose I handed it down to you, but if you do not do that, then it is lost. Now the Krishna consciousness movement is going on in my presence. Now after my departure, if you do not do this, then it is lost. If you go on as you are doing now, then it will go on."

(Room Conversation, May 9th, 1975)

"Yes, whoever you tell the chant to, it is effective. [...] Because you have heard it from a pure devotee of the Lord, therefore it is transmitted from you to another. Just as an aerial message, is transmitted from one place to another, similarly, this Guru parampara system is working. My disciples are my agents, my rep-

resentatives, so by hearing it from them, you are receiving it from me." (Srila Prabhupada Letter, March 6th, 1968, emphasis added)

"If death takes place, let it take here. So there is nothing to be said new. Whatever I have to speak, I have spoken in my books. Now you try to understand it and continue your endeavour. Whether I am present or not present, it doesn't matter."

(Srila Prabhupada Arrival Address, May 17th, 1977)

## Parampara depends on Srila Prabhupada's purports, not physical person

"Now, here also it is stated, sa kalaneha mahata yogo nasto parantapa: "My dear Arjuna, oh, you are the great hero. Now, that Bhagavad-gita, the instruction which I imparted to the sun-god, was coming by disciplic succession. Now it is lost." Now, we have to note down this point. Why it is lost? Why it is lost? Do you think that there was no learned man during that time? During Krsna's time? Oh, there were many learned sages. Not only one, two, there were doz-

ens of learned sages. But still, the Lord said, Krsna said, that "They. That knowledge which I exactly imparted to sun-god is now lost." How it is lost? There were many scholars, and still, how it is lost? The lost means that the purport of Bhagavad-gita is lost." (Srila Prabhupada Lecture, July 13th 1966)

"You have taken the right view of the importance of my books. Books will always remain [...] and if there are no more temples, then the books shall remain."

(Srila Prabhupada Letter, November 8th, 1973)

## Conclusion

The *parampara* continues with its current representative transmitting knowledge to us, and this is still continuing today in the same way via Srila Prabhupada and his teachings, a fact which even ISKCON's "do nothing, take the credit" gurus and GBC admit. They like to claim this means that Srila Prabhupada's role is "only" *siksa*, but the quotes above prove it means that Srila Prabhupada is the *parampara's* current link.

## IRM Mission Statement

Since the physical departure of His Divine Grace A. C. Bhaktivedanta Swami Srila Prabhupada from our material vision on November 14th 1977, the International Society For Krishna Consciousness (ISKCON), the great movement which he single-handedly founded in 1966, and which is the only hope for humanity, has undergone a massive deterioration in its spiritual purity. This has been due to various deviations from the instructions and standards given by Srila Prabhupada, the chief of which being his displacement as the sole *diksa* Guru for ISKCON. The ISKCON Revival Movement (IRM) seeks to restore ISKCON to its former glory, purity and philosophical chastity through the re-institution of all the instructions and standards that Srila Prabhupada gave, beginning with his role as the sole authority and *diksa* Guru for ISKCON. The IRM's position is set out in *The Final Order* - see back page to order your free copy.







# Readers' questions and challenges

"Why are you writing in such a way about Gour Govinda Maharaja? You have no knowledge about sabda-brahma [...] Gour Govinda Maharaja was an acarya."  
-Rupanuga Das, Brahminical Council, Loire, France

## Editor replies:

You are referring to where we have directly quoted Gour Govinda Maharaja ("GGM") as follows:

"One has to hear. It is not that, 'All right, tapes are there, I'll hear the recorded tapes.' Sabda-brahma will never descend. [...] You should be greedy. Physical contact is required. You must hear directly, not just by listening to tapes. Sabda-brahma will never descend through a tape. One must hear from a physically present Sri Guru."

(HH Gour Govinda Swami, 'Q&A, The Worship of Sri Guru, chapter 3)

Our knowledge of *sabda-brahma* (transcendental sound) comes from Srila Prabhupada - the real Acarya - who, both by precept and example, taught the complete opposite to GGM:

1) Srila Prabhupada stated that *sabda-brahma*, such as the Gayatri mantra, can descend through a tape:

"I am enclosing herewith a tape of the gayatri mantra chanted by me [...] The process should be that you let each of them hear the tape individually (through ear-phones) [...] Let them read the mantra and listen to the tape."

(Srila Prabhupada Letter, July 14th, 1971)

2) Srila Prabhupada stated that the guru does not need to be physically present in order to transmit *sabda-brahma*:

"[...] Brahman, the prime spiritual master of everyone, is the living example of this process of receiving transcendental knowledge. The potency of transcendental sound is never minimized because the vibrator is apparently absent."

(Srimad-Bhagavatam 2.9.8, purport)

"Your argumentation against gurus in ISKCON somehow reminds me of the Seventh Day Adventists and their fixation on the bishop in Rome. You will not be able to score points with your ISKCON guru paranoia here in Weimar. By the way, I don't have a problem with different groups creating spaces in which Krishna Consciousness can be practiced and Prabhupada's teachings will be spread. Indeed, I am happy to hear about such endeavors. I wish you Krishna's, Radharani's and Prabhupada's blessings."

-Antarange Shakti Das, Weimar, Germany

## Editor replies:

That -

a) Srila Prabhupada was removed as the Guru of his own movement in 1977;

b) Thousands of devotees have had their spiritual lives destroyed by following unauthorized and unqualified devotees masquerading as gurus;

c) Srila Prabhupada's name and teachings are used to dupe thousands of innocents into following a path not given by Srila Prabhupada, thus leading them to be disconnected from the *parampara*;

- is not paranoia but a reality. Indeed, ISKCON's own gurus admit the devastation they have wrought:

"**FACT: ISKCON gurus have opposed, oppressed and driven out many sincere Godbrothers and Godsisters.**"

(HH Jayadvaita Swami, *Where the Ritvik People are Right*, 1996).

The paranoia would be to pretend that none of this is happening, and to instead criticise those who speak these truths as being paranoid.

Thank you for your blessings. Through the IRM we are indeed "creating a space" where true Krishna consciousness and Srila Prabhupada's teachings can be practised and spread.

"I just received Issue 21 and like all previous issues I will read and pass it on to another Prabhupada disciple/buddy of mine who in turn will read and pass it on to yet others. We sometimes discuss the articles at our weekly satsang or when we get together for a cup of tea or a walk. I am yet to be inspired into more loving service to Radha & Krsna or to my Master upon reading your magazine which should be the intention, I think."

It's not that I do not appreciate the effort you folks put into these publications, misguided as it is - maybe - but hopefully good intentioned. Having said that I would like to mention that it appears to me that IRM (members?) are more interested in creating division(s) and themselves looking for notoriety rather than unity. Please convince me otherwise."

-Toshan Das, Victoria, Canada

## Editor replies:

Thank you for your letter. Thank you also for passing the magazine on to others to read.

As you will see from our letters section, and the "Coming to Prabhupada" series, many persons have been inspired to start serving Srila Prabhupada as a result of reading our magazine.

We did not create a division; it already exists - between those who wish to follow Srila Prabhupada's orders (IRM) and those who are disobeying them (the current GBC). The IRM seeks to unite these groups by presenting the evidence for Srila Prabhupada's orders, so that the disobedient group will begin to follow Srila Prabhupada's orders. And we are having success in this effort since many persons have indeed "come back" to Srila Prabhupada as a result of our efforts, as the letters pages attest.

Unity can only exist with Srila Prabhupada in the centre, not 80+ competing guru cults.

"Why do we need your explanations since Srila Prabhupada is still alive and thus very able to himself explain perfectly all our questions and thus everything?"

-Sven-Ove Persson, Bjömlunda, Sweden

## Editor replies:

1) We have never claimed that no one can be a *siksa* guru (preacher) - on the contrary we say that Srila Prabhupada's many calls for "becoming guru" refer to everyone, including the GBC, becoming *siksa* guru, and faithfully teaching his instructions to others. Srila Prabhupada makes this clear throughout his instructions, for example:

"The GBC should all be the instructor gurus. I am the initiator guru, and you should be the instructor guru by teaching what I am teaching and doing what I am doing."

(Srila Prabhupada Letter, August 4th, 1975, emphasis added)

"One only has to [...] instruct relatives and friends in the teachings of the Bhagavad-gita and Srimad-Bhagavatam. [...] It is best not to accept any disciples [...] Thus one can become a spiritual master [...]"

(Sri Caitanya-caritamṛta, Madhya-lila 7.130 purport, emphasis added)

We are acting in exactly the same way devotees acted when Srila Prabhupada was on the planet pre-1977, where Srila Prabhupada was everyone's *diksa* Guru, and every devotee simply preached to make others Srila Prabhupada's disciple

2) However, the situation in ISKCON today is not at all the same as it was pre-'77; instead we have persons claiming they are Srila Prabhupada's successors in the *parampara*, and that only by worshipping them can one reach Krishna.

Clearly these two situations, 1) and 2), are fundamentally different, hence the need for the IRM to exist as real *siksa* gurus.



# The myth of the subordinate *diksa* guru

When you take what Srila Prabhupada has given us, and try to superimpose on it our own desires, a fiasco emerges, ultimately rendering our attempts to serve Srila Prabhupada deviant and useless. We have already given some examples of this in previous BTP issues:

a) First it was fabricated that Srila Prabhupada wanted 11 gurus instead of 11 *ritviks* (officiating priests), and mass degradation and deviation followed.

b) Then it was fabricated that everyone can become guru due to the "law of disciplic succession", only then the law had to be reversed so literally everyone could become guru, including 'grand-disciples.'

c) Srila Prabhupada continuing to remain the *diksa* (initiating) Guru of ISKCON is opposed on the basis of historical precedence, and yet at the same time to justify how ISKCON is run it is said tradition is irrelevant because ISKCON itself is unprecedented.

d) To allow for ISKCON gurus falling down as being no big deal, it is stated they are not absolute. But at the same time they must be worshipped as if they are absolute, "as good-as- God".

e) To fend off rival "living" gurus from the Gaudiya Matha it is stated that Srila Prabhupada is enough for one's spiritual life, but to promote "living" gurus from ISKCON, it is stated Srila Prabhupada is not enough.

And so on.

This comedy of errors comes full circle when we look at the acrobatic somersaults the GBC engage in to justify how ISKCON *diksa* gurus are naturally subordinate within a GBC structure.

Unless otherwise indicated, all quotes in the panels below are from current GBC member, and ex-GBC chairman, **Praghosa Das** ("PD"), excerpted from an ar-

ticle he wrote discussing the role of ISKCON gurus being subordinate to the GBC, posted on the GBC- funded website Dandavats.com on June 1st, 2009.

## Somersault 1

**"In the case of both Srila Prabhupada and also Srila Bhaktisiddhanta Saraswati Thakura, their wish was that all members of their institutions would subordinate themselves to the authority of an administrative, managerial body. [...] So *diksa* is a service but it should not automatically mean that one doing that service gains independent authority, no, rather they remain a servant under the authority structure of the institution."**

On the back page of this issue we will see that in practice this means that *diksa* gurus are subject to disciplinary action by the GBC. Yet Srila Prabhupada has taught the opposite, that no *diksa* guru can ever be treated like this, and to do so is a great offense:

**"It is also an offense to consider an empowered Vaisnava an object of disciplinary action. It is offensive to try to give him advice or to correct him."**

(*Nectar of Instruction*, Text 6, purport)

Hence immediately it can be proven that it is not possible for a *diksa* guru to be under the authority of a management body.

## Somersault 2

**"The other issue it raises is the issue of authority, devotees serving as guru in ISKCON are not the ultimate authority as would be the case in the traditional vedic setting. This of course is something that not only the gurus have to embrace but also something the disciples have to understand as well."**

This state of affairs, whereby

the *diksa* guru is subordinate to the authority of the GBC, is rendered even more absurd when one considers that the disciples of these *diksa* gurus may themselves well be members of the GBC, as is currently the case, with PD himself being one such example. Yet the whole *raison d'être* of the guru-disciple relationship is to have disciples subordinate to the guru, not gurus possibly subordinate to their GBC disciples!

## Somersault 3

**"Sometimes in our society an authority like a temple president may request a devotee serving in their temple to do a particular service and often the devotee will respond with "Oh I need to check with my guru first". This type of understanding can severely inhibit the mission of ISKCON and if allowed to flourish could lead to its break up."**

So the whole basis of the need for a "living guru", as argued by the GBC, that he is required to give guidance to his disciple, would now actually lead to ISKCON being severely inhibited and breaking up, if the disciple actually sought this guidance!

## Somersault 4

**"The question could be raised; "If *diksa* gives the guru some kind of extraordinary position or authority within the institution, and that *diksa* is based on *siksa*, that means that anyone who is giving guidance and instruction to others (*siksa*), would have some type of independent authority by dint of the fact that they're also giving *siksa*. If that was the case we would really have anarchy and chaos on a large scale."**

We already had such a system whereby the *diksa* guru had an

extraordinary position or authority, and it worked perfectly, and was the system Srila Prabhupada gave us in ISKCON when he was present, with *siksa* gurus able to work perfectly in harmony with this all-powerful *diksa* guru, Srila Prabhupada:

**"The GBC should all be the instructor gurus. I am the initiator guru, and you should be the instructor guru by teaching what I am teaching and doing what I am doing."**

(Srila Prabhupada Letter, 4/8/1975)

So the only anarchy here is PD suggesting that a system Srila Prabhupada gave could possibly result in anarchy. Only the system has to have Srila Prabhupada as the all-powerful *diksa* Guru, and the GBC subordinate to him. Not dozens of unauthorized gurus somehow artificially squeezed into being subordinate to the GBC.

## Somersault 5

**"In essence that instruction is that ISKCON's gurus are not invested with the prerogative of being the ultimate authority within the institution, rather they are also a servant like all other members of ISKCON. Their service is to give *diksa*, everyone else can, and are, to one degree or another, giving *siksa* as a service and they also should be giving *siksa* as generally *diksa* is based on *siksa*."**

What PD is proposing entails that we need an order from Srila Prabhupada "investing" individuals with the service of:

a) Acting as successor *diksa* gurus.

b) But also being *diksa* guru who will not have the standard ultimate authority that a *diksa* guru by definition possesses, an entity never spoken of by Srila Prabhupada.

So PD has just gone and raised



the bar even much further, since in the last 32 years the GBC have not even been able to produce a); so it's going to be even harder to produce an order from Srila Prabhupada, combining both a) and b)!

### Somersault 6

**"However as we know that is not the model given to us by Srila Prabhupada and as ISKCON is the institution of Srila Prabhupada, in essence the devotees serving as gurus within ISKCON are first and foremost initiating devotees into the institution of their spiritual master. This is a subtle but significant difference from the traditional guru disciple relationship."**

The somersaults now become even more bizarre in PD's attempt to justify this clearly unnatural state of affairs. He now proposes a never before heard of concept, akin to "semi-ritvik". The ISKCON *diksa* gurus neither primarily initiate disciples into being their disciples, as is the standard; nor as disciples of Srila Prabhupada, as in the *ritvik* system Srila Prabhupada set up for ISKCON. Rather, they go for a half-way house, whereby the disciples are initiated not as the disciples of any guru, but rather into an impersonal institution. This PD tells us is a "significant difference from the traditional guru disciple relationship." Alas, this was not something taught or practised by Srila Prabhupada.

### Somersault 7

**"It is interesting to note the voluminous instructions from Srila Prabhupada on many many subjects, including how ISKCON should function, mirrored against some of his thoughts on initiation;"**

It is interesting to note the vo-

luminous instructions from Srila Prabhupada on many subjects do not include even a whisper at all about successor *diksa* gurus who will have none of the standard powers of *diksa* gurus and be subordinate to the GBC.

### Somersault 8

**"As ISKCON moves forward it is vital that all devotees associated with it understand clearly its authority structure."**

This will be difficult since after 32 years, such a structure still has not been clearly defined, with various committees still trying to figure out how exactly these "parallel lines of authority" can work in practice. This is only to be expected, since Srila Prabhupada never gave such a system or stated how it could even work in theory. Rather, as shown above, it is like trying to force a square peg into a round hole. Hence after 32 years the committees still can't figure out how to do it, since it can't be done, nor was it meant to be done.

### The reality

1) The points made above prove that a *diksa* guru is not supposed to be subordinate to the GBC.

2) We know that Srila Prabhupada left the GBC as the "ultimate managing authority" for ISKCON as given in the first line of his Last Will and Testament.

3) The very next line of the Will states **"The system of management will continue as it is now and there is no need of any change."** And that system had been in place since 1970, with the GBC subordinate to the *diksa* Guru, Srila Prabhupada.

2) means that if the GBC do want to create successor *diksa* gurus in ISKCON, they are forced to try and make them subordinate



**GBC member Praghosa Das:**  
Acrobat extraordinaire

to themselves. 1) however means this cannot be done. This is therefore yet another proof that successor *diksa* gurus were not ordered for ISKCON by Srila Prabhupada, because they cannot be subordinate, and yet by 2) they would have to be. 3) independently also proves that Srila Prabhupada did not order successor *diksa* gurus.

The GBC in turn, of course, derive their authority as merely being an executive body subordinate to the *diksa* Guru of ISKCON, Srila Prabhupada:

**"Resolved: The GBC (Governing Body Commission) has been established by His Divine Grace A.C. Bhaktivedanta Swami Prabhupada to represent Him in carrying out the responsibility of managing the International Society for Krishna Consciousness of which He is the Founder-Acarya and supreme authority. The GBC accepts as its life and soul His divine instructions and recognises that it is completely dependent on His mercy in all respects. The GBC has no other function or purpose other than to execute the instructions so kindly given by His Divine Grace and preserve and spread His Teachings to the world in their pure form."**

(GBC Resolutions, 1975, personally approved by Srila Prabhupada, emphasis added)

The GBC exists solely as a vehicle to execute the orders of the



**HDG Srila Prabhupada:**  
No amount of gymnastics can remove him as *diksa* Guru

*diksa* guru, and not to create *diksa* gurus who will be subordinate to it.

### Conclusion

1) What Srila Prabhupada actually gave as the management structure of ISKCON – a GBC subordinate to the all-powerful *diksa* guru (Srila Prabhupada), the system given by Srila Prabhupada for ISKCON since 1970 – is based on the role of the *diksa* guru as described by Srila Prabhupada, and it is what Srila Prabhupada ordered should remain as the permanent management system for ISKCON.

2) What the current GBC propose – having *diksa* gurus subordinate to them – was not ordered by Srila Prabhupada, but also is so full of so many inherent contradictions that it collapses upon itself.

Therefore the very existence of a GBC set up by Srila Prabhupada to manage ISKCON on his behalf is itself evidence that no successor *diksa* gurus were ordered by Srila Prabhupada. This conclusion is proven in much further detail in an academically reviewed paper called *The False Dawn of Guru Reform*, which can be found here:

[www.iskconirm.com/docs/webpages/False\\_Dawn.htm](http://www.iskconirm.com/docs/webpages/False_Dawn.htm)



# The Divinity Delusion: Case study of His Holiness

We continue here our series of exposés on the delusions of grandeur which have gripped those who are trying to take over Srila Prabhupada's position as the *diksa* (initiating) Guru of ISKCON. All quotations in the tinted panels, unless otherwise specified, are from a lecture given by His Holiness Bhakti Vikash Swami ("BVKS") on February 9th, 2009 titled "A Reply to Ritvikism".

## The Divinity Delusion

"[...] 'through the *parampara*. I'll take you to my guru and then he takes you to his guru' and like this the mercy comes down, and we bring people in and offer them up. [...] And the guru is the sum and substance of all the demigods and actually the guru is...the Vaisnava guru is even more important than the demigods in as much as they both accept worship. [...] And I'm saying that and I am a Vaisnavaguru.[...] So the *acarya* that Krishna is speaking about when he's instructing Uddhava, that "the *acarya* is as good as Me", not be disrespected in any way, is the forest *rishi* guru. And of course this applies to all those, all Vaisnava gurus."

BVKS makes it clear that he considers himself the next guru in the *parampara* (disciplic succession) after Srila Prabhupada, who should be worshipped and treated just like every other member in the *parampara*. And consequently he has attained the position of being more powerful than the sum total of the demigods, to be treated as being good as Krishna.

## The Divinity Delusion - 2

"My *Vyasa-puja*... [...] So you may think, well, what is my qualification to accept the honour and affection that you

are offering to me [...] Well, that is my qualification, that if I can glorify Prabhupada then that's the qualification ...actually, the er... I'm not qualified, intrinsically, but qualified because I can point, "here is Prabhupada, and follow his instructions, and ask you to have faith in what Srila Prabhupada has given."

(BVKS, "Vyasa-Puja" Lecture, Tirupati, January 5th, 2008)

BVKS claims that neophyte *bhaktas* (devotees) should worship him as a full-fledged successor *parampara diksa* guru because he has only attained the same qualifications as they have – being able to glorify Srila Prabhupada and telling others to do the same!

## I am a joke!

This declaration of his acquired divinity is rendered contradictory by the boasts he made before he was allowed to join the GBC's guru club:

"Monitor guru" seems to be the most suitable position for me — an older student guiding a younger one, who may well surpass the monitor as he grows older but will always remain faithful and respectful to him; the teacher of both is the same. 'Nikunja-yuno' etc. in relation to me? Not even a joke; it's ridiculous. Do I have to pretend to have attained *manjari*-hood? What are those initiated by our Godbrothers supposed to think when they sing 'nikunja-yuno' and 'romanca kalpa', etc. when the guru can't even get up for *mangala-arati*? These matters need careful looking into."

(BVKS, *Vedic Village Review*, Issue 14, September, 1990)

BVKS initially ridiculed the idea of himself becoming a regular successor *parampara diksa*

guru, claiming instead that he is at best a monitor guru, who is simply an elder student guiding a younger one. And the younger student may well surpass the monitor guru with time, with the teacher of both being the same. Whilst the idea of being a guru like all the other GBC gurus, whose disciples sing "Nikunja-yuno" and "romanca kalpa" to them every morning at *mangala-arati*, was not "even a joke", but "ridiculous". Yet this is exactly the "ridiculous" position BVKS is now agreeing with, fully supporting the disciples singing these prayers to him and the other ISKCON GBC gurus every morning during *mangala-arati*. So the only "matter" that needs "careful looking into" is why, by his own estimation, BVKS is such a hypocritical ridiculous joke!

## IRM convinced many people!

"a misconception which is quite prominent in the ISKCON world at the present time [...] *ritvikism* has convinced many people. [...] this magazine called *Back to Prabhupada*. You've probably all seen it because it's widely circulated. [...] this *Final Order* which is the 'Bible' of *ritvikism*, 'TFO', that was written by Krishnakant Desai, [...] he's quite expert in debate, in *vitanda*, *chala*, *nigraha*, all these kind of things. He has good intelligence, no doubt."

BVKS admits that our work is so successful that it is "quite prominent" and has "convinced many people" in the ISKCON world! And this is based on my being "quite expert in debate" and having "good intelligence". So BVKS admits there is substance to our work.

## BTP very logical

"And you'll find in that *Back To Prabhupada* magazine it all appears very logical. But we

don't find any *bhakti* there. There's nothing which appeals to our heart."

BVKS's admissions would imply that the GBC's many positions are all illogical, since *BTP* which exposes them is "very logical"! And he offers a nonsensical justification to try and explain away our accurate logic – that it does not appeal to his heart. But we need to determine if our logic is *correct*, not whether or not it makes BVKS feel good inside! And hence in not challenging our logic, he has merely confirmed that we are right.

## IRM point out contradictions

"They claim that the GBC speaks contradictorily. Well, it may be like that apparently. You can say that about Prabhupada also. Prabhupada sometimes said one thing and sometimes he said something else."

So BVKS is not only admitting that we expose the GBC speaking contradictorily, but attempts to justify that there is nothing wrong with this by trying to claim that Srila Prabhupada also spoke contradictorily!

## "Krishna contradicts Himself"

"What about Krishna in the *Bhagavad-gita*? [...] So how are we going to understand this point that Krishna in the *Bhagavad-gita* - which is the book in which He explains the highest truth which we all have to understand to attain the highest spiritual platform - He contradicts Himself?"

Unfortunately, BVKS's offensive mentality is not finished there. So desperate is he to try and cover the fact that *BTP* has exposed the GBC contradicting themselves



# Bhakti Vikash Swami

left, right and centre, he now shamelessly tries to claim that Krishna also contradicts Himself! To protect the bogus guru program of which he is an integral member, BVKS is happy to accept that both Srila Prabhupada and Krishna contradict themselves and are in the same category as his beloved GBC. By engaging in such an offensive defensive justification, the fact that we have accurately pointed out the GBC continually contradicting themselves is simply established beyond any doubt!

## No difference

**"So, there's actually no difference between what they say and what we say, but the only difference is that the *ritvik-vadis* want to bottle up the mercy and say that it stopped with Prabhupada and no one else can distribute that mercy."**

If the difference between the IRM's position and that of the GBC is so minor that according to BVKS "there's actually no difference", then clearly we cannot be preaching a "dangerous philosophical deviation" as claimed by the GBC resolutions.

## Kali-yuga hypocrisy

**"So the main thing they're doing in their magazine is... is...is just finding faults with Vaisnavas. They're more concerned with that than in glorifying Krishna, which is what Prabhupada did. So how anyone can benefit from that I don't know because benefit comes from glorifying Krishna and glorifying His devotees. Not from simply saying this is wrong, that is wrong. So we don't find it very spiritual. The whole thing is just criticism."**

Yet BVKS also states such "crit-

icism" is essential for pointing out deviations:

**"As the GBC cannot be expected to take needed action to stop deviations before they become disasters, it seems the only recourse for responsible members of ISKCON is to take the matter to gutter level, i.e. the internet. Painful and undignified as such public laundry-washing may be, it might at least create an awareness of deviations and warn devotees not to get sidelined into weird cults going on in the name of ISKCON."**

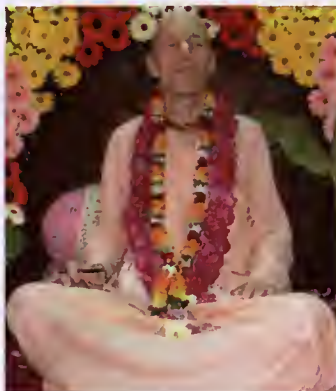
(HH Bhakti Vikash Swami, 23/03/03, PAMHO Text: 7160561)

The above comment was given in support of BVKS's heavy and persistent attacks on fellow ISKCON guru His Holiness Bhakti Tirtha Swami. So if the odd guru does something wrong, then BVKS can criticize him as much as he wants. But if ALL the ISKCON gurus are doing something wrong - by unauthorizedly perpetrating the Guru Hoax - then criticising them is of no value according to BVKS! No sane person will accept such hypocrisy - but then again maybe BVKS is simply relying on the fact that it is *Kali-yuga*, the age of hypocrisy?

## Invents our position

**"So one other argument of the *ritvik-vadis* is they say, 'Well, we have to follow *sadhu*, *sastra* and *guru*. And you're saying that Prabhupada just introduced this system which is not according to *sastra*. And they'll say, 'Well Prabhupada changed so many things. He's a great *acarya*. He can change so many things.' In this way they demonstrate their pathetic ignorance of the principles of *bhakti-tattva*."**

BVKS has simply demon-



**HH Bhakti Vikash Swami:**  
Claiming divinity

strated his "pathetic ignorance" of what we say, which is not the above. Whatever Srila Prabhupada does, by definition, is automatically in line with *sadhu* (the saintly predecessors) and *sastra* (scripture), since he is the guru, and guru, *sadhu* and *sastra* are always in line. So we say the exact opposite of what BVKS claims we say here! Thus, like hundreds before him, BVKS is unable even to state what we claim, never mind be able to refute it!

## No philosophy, only false personal attacks

**"Some years ago, some proponents of *ritvikvada* brought him (BTP editor Krishnakant) to Alachua as the star but then they withdrew him because he was an embarrassment."**

So having no philosophy or evidence with which to rebut our arguments, like all others before him, BVKS is forced to resort to false personal attacks. False, because had BVKS actually attended the meetings, or watched the video recordings of the two-day event, he would see for himself that I spoke throughout, and was at no point withdrawn. And even if BVKS's personal attacks were correct, they would simply prove that he was philosophically bankrupt, since he has to resort to per-



**The actual divine Guru:**  
Srila Prabhupada

sonal attacks as a substitute for not having any philosophy with which to address our arguments.

## Conclusion

So in summary, BVKS:

- a) Admits we point out contradictions in the GBC position.
- b) Admits our presentation is "very logical".
- c) States that there is "actually no difference" between our position and his.
- d) Claims Srila Prabhupada and Krishna contradict themselves.
- e) Claims he is the sum total of the demigods, fit to be worshipped like an *acarya*.
- f) Offers only contradictions, hypocrisy, false arguments and personal attacks to support his position.

So in sum, BVKS offers not one piece of evidence against the IRM's position, but rather just ends up supporting it!

The above analysis is extracted from a much larger exposé, compiled as part of our acclaimed "An error in every sentence series", and the full version can be read here:

[www.iskconirm.com/docs/webpages/BVKSerror.htm](http://www.iskconirm.com/docs/webpages/BVKSerror.htm)



# THE WHACKY WORLD OF ISKCON'S GOVERNING BODY COMMISSION (GBC)

**A**s we see below, the GBC via their Resolutions continue to provide yet more evidence of their constantly shifting positions, inevitably contradicting themselves in the process. By now it should be clear to most rational people that we should be following Srila Prabhupada alone as the only *diksa* (initiating) guru in ISKCON, and not the GBC's whacky world of voted-in gurus!

## We need more as good-as-God gurus

"Whereas there is a factual need for more *diksa*-gurus in ISKCON to accommodate the worldwide preaching [...]"  
(GBC Resolution 305, 2009)

## ...but they may be deviants!

"Discipline of Devotees Approved to act as Initiating Gurus

### Reasons For Discipline

[...] Misconduct, such as physical assault, except in self-defence, improper relationships with the opposite sex, improper sexual behavior, abusive behavior to devotees, improper dealings with external society, etc

[...] Misuse of Funds.

[...] Failure to follow any of the four regulative principles or to regularly chant sixteen rounds of *japa*."

(GBC Resolution 315, 2009)

## We follow tradition

"On the strength of our Vaisnava tradition and the statements of Srila Prabhupada, the GBC concludes that Srila Prabhupada intended his disciples to become "regular Gurus" after he physically departed."

(GBC Resolution 409, 2004)

## ...by being unprecedented!

"Whereas ISKCON is an unprecedented worldwide Gaudiya Vaisnava mission which aims to incorporate many individual *diksa* and *siksa* gurus and their disciples."

(GBC Resolution 316, 2009)

## We want to focus on Srila Prabhupada

"Whereas the Srila Prabhupada's Position committee wishes to focus our ISKCON laws more solidly on Srila Prabhupada's position"

(GBC Resolution 316, 2009)

## ...by having our feet bathed in public!

"In order to focus more fully on Srila Prabhupada and every devotee's special relationship with him, an ISKCON *siksa* or *diksa* guru may accept public *guru-puja* (*arati* and/or foot bathing) in person once a year on ISKCON property on his or her *Vyasa-puja*."

(GBC Resolution 316, 2009)

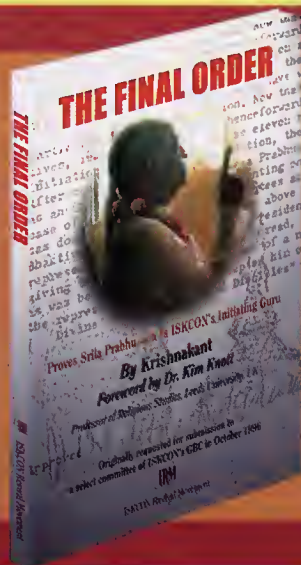
## KNOW THE TRUTH:

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## THE BOOK THE GBC DOES NOT WANT YOU TO READ!

"I hope this book will be read carefully and discussed widely because the profound issues it raises demand consideration at all levels. Every devotee has a real stake in the matter."

From the Foreword by Professor Kim Knott, Head of Religious Studies, Leeds University, UK